

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 9-11 have been amended and new claim 17 has been added. Claims 1-17 are pending and under consideration.

Claims 1-3 and 6-13 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication No. 2002/0059210 to Makus et al. The independent claims have been amended to recite that the name space ontology is generated by setting a table of mutual relationships of concept expressed between two pieces of name information which is ruled as an extensible mark-up language name space. Antecedent support for this claim change can be found at page 15, lines 15-22 of the specification, which reads as follows:

Referring back to step SD29 in Fig. 12, the ontology generating unit 105 executes the categorization processing to categorize the name information (concept). Specifically, at step SF1 in the flowchart shown in Fig. 14, the ontology generating unit 105 sets a table of "is-a" and "Part-of" that show mutual relationship of the concept. The "is-a" means that the concept expressed by two pieces of name information in the name space (see Fig. 3, Fig. 5, and Fig. 6) is in the lateral relationship. The "Part-of" means that the concept expressed by two pieces of name information is in the vertical relationship.

The independent claims have also been amended to recite that a layer depth is determined of the name space. Antecedent support for this limitation can be found at page 14, lines 13-16 of the specification, which reads as follows:

When the result of the decision at the step SD27 is "Yes," the ontology generating unit 105 at step SD28 executes the layer depth determination processing to determine the layer depth of the name space (ontology) generated based on the candidates of the name information, in the neural network (see Fig. 18).

See also FIGS. 3 and 5 for antecedent support.

The Examiner appears to reject the claims because Makus et al. discloses a hierarchical structure of names and uses the term "multimedia". For example, FIG. 7 shows a plurality of international airlines organized alphabetically. The international airlines fall under the broader category of aviation, which falls under the broader category of travel and transport. In FIG. 8, when one of the airlines is selected, the website and phone number for that airline are shown together with the name of the airline.

Although the claims are not limited to what is disclosed in the application, the Examiner is referred to FIG. 2 for antecedent basis purposes. The elements disclosed in FIG. 2 relate to names for an apparatus, such as a DCN, i.e., development code name. DCN represents parts which constitute the whole apparatus. Mutual relationships of the parts are represented by "is-a"

performed using a neural network, as disclosed in FIGS. 17-19, by using fuzzy logic, as disclosed in FIG. 22, or by using the logic disclosed in FIG. 6. On the otherhand, Makus et al. discloses providing an index by putting names of community information of a town into a hierarchical structure. Makus et al. does not disclose or suggest determining mutual relationships of concept expressed between two pieces of name information, as claimed.

Although Makus et al. discloses a hierarchical structure in alphabetical order, as shown in FIGS. 6-8, the principle of Makus et al. is the same as a conventional dictionary printed on sheets of paper. There is no meaning to the relationship between the names listed. With regard to indexing of multimedia, Makus et al. discloses displaying a URL along together with a name selected from among the names displayed in alphabetical order, as disclosed in FIG. 8. Thus, Makus et al. simply discloses indexing.

However, Makus et al. does not disclose or suggest "generating a name space ontology by setting a table of mutual relationships of concept expressed between two pieces of name information which is ruled as an extensible mark-up language name space in world wide web consortium, the mutual relationship including lateral relationships and vertical relationships." Further, Makus et al. fails to disclose or suggest "determining a layer depth of a name space" as claimed. Accordingly, the prior art rejection should be withdrawn.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Mark J. Henry
Registration No. 36,162

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501